- (c) coagulating and entangling the fine fibers with a series of pressured hydro needling jets of recycling solution of the mixture of cellulose solvent and non-solvent in the spin-line,
- (d) collecting the stream of microfibers, air and needling jets on a moving collecting surface to form cellulosic fiber web,
- (e) hydro-entangling the said pre-bonded web downstream with at least one set of hydro needling jets of recycling solvent/non-solvent solution for forming well bonded nonwoven web,
- (f) regenerating the fine fibers in at least one bath for at least 5 seconds,
- (g) further regenerating and washing the fine fibers in another bath for at least 5 seconds,
- (h) pinching the well bonded melt blown cellulosic nonwoven with pressure rollers to remove major portions of the non-solvent.
- (i) drying the nonwoven web by heat, or vacuum or both, and
- (j) winding the nonwoven web into rolls.
- 2. The process of claim 1 in which the spinning nozzles are arranged in at least one row with a nozzle-to-nozzle space of 0.050" to 1.000"
- 3. The process of claim 1 in which the spinning nozzles are 0.005" to 0.050" in inside diameter and 0.500" to 3.000" in length.
- 4. The process of claim 1 in which the spinning nozzles are concentric with their individual gas holes and protruded -0.005" to 0.800" from the top plate of the said gas holes.
- 5. The process of claim 1 in which the solvent of the cellulose solution is one or more of the following: NMMO, dilute caustic soda, phosphoric acid, mixture of liquid ammonia/ammonia thiocynate and others.
- 6. The process of claim 1 in which the non-solvent of cellulose is one or more of the following: water, alcohol (C_nH_{2n+1}OH, n≤10), and/or water/alcohol/solvent solutions
- 7. The process of claim 1 in which the recycling solvent/non-solvent solution is filtered and supplied from the regenerating bath by a high pressure pump and part of the solution is continuously removed from the said bath for solvent recycling.

- 8. The process of claim 1 in which the recycling NMMO solution is supplied to the needling jets from and come back to the first regenerating bath. The second washing bath is continuously filled with fresh non-solvent, which is sprayed onto the nonwoven web first. Part of the low concentration solution continuously overflow from the washing bath to the regenerating bath.
- 9. The collecting system for manufacturing the said cellulose fiber nonwoven comprises
 - (a) a paternally perforated drum with a diameter ranged from 20 inch to 70 inch
 - (b) at least one set of coagulating hydro needling jets, which contacts with flying fibers 0.5 inch to 30 inch from the collecting surface and at an angle from 5 degree to 75 degree (relative to the air blowing direction)
 - (c) at least another set of hydro needling jets downstream for both hydroentangling and fiber regenerating.
 - (d) at least one regenerating bath and one washing bath with conveying belts.
 - (e) at least one vacuum section across and beneath the drum surface
 - (f) at least one heating section across and above the drum surface
- 10. The collecting system of claim 4 in which the regenerating and washing bathes contain series of rollers to guide the nonwoven web.
- 11. The conveying belt of claim 9 submerged in both bathes moves slower than surface speed of the collecting drum.
- 12. The cellulosic nonwovens of claim 1 in which the fibers are essentially continuous with an average size of 1 to 30 micrometer in diameter and bonded by both self-bonding and hydro-entanglement.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to a process of melt blowing a cellulose solution through a concentric melt blown die with multiple rows of spinning nozzles to form cellulosic microfiber webs with different web structures. The process comprises the steps of (a) extruding a cellulose solution (dope) through a melt blown spinneret with multiple rows of spinning nozzles; (b) drawing each individual extrudate filament to fine fiber diameter